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(54) Title: LOW-VOC AQUEOUS COATING COMPOSITIONS WITH EXCELLENT FREEZE-THAW STABILITY

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to an aqueous coating composition having excellent freeze-thaw stability and a low-VOC content, comprising a multi-stage polymer dispersion comprising (a) an inner phase comprising at least one latex polymer derived from at least one monomer and at least one polymerizable alkoxylated surfactant having the structure: R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>2</sup> wherein R<sup>1</sup> is an allyl group selected from the group consisting of CH<sub>3</sub>-CH=CH- and CH<sub>2</sub>=CH-CH<sub>2</sub>-, or an acrylic group and R<sup>2</sup> is a radical comprising at least two carbon atoms and at least one oxyethylene or oxypropylene unit; (b) an outer phase having a glass transition temperature of from 30°C to 110°C containing at least one ethylenic unsaturated monomer (c) at least one pigment; (d) water; and (e) less than 3.0 % by weight based on the total weight of the aqueous coating composition of anti-freeze agents.



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